

A N E W
PRACTICAL ESSAY
O N
C A N C E R S:

CONTAINING,

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|--|---|
| I. An Account of their Nature, Causes, and different Species. | fectual; with Remarks on the same. |
| II. A Detail of the general Method of Practice, commonly called rational or palliative. | IV. The most safe, efficacious, and only certain Method of Cure, for every Species of Schirruffles and Cancers without Cutting, Caustic, or any painful Operation; as may be seen by the Cases annexed. |
| III. A Description of the Remedies proposed by some as Specifics, but found to be either dangerous or ineffectual. | V. Brief Remarks on Ulcers and Cancers of the Womb, |

To which is added,

A DISSERTATION
O N T H E
Disorders occasioned by the MILK;
W I T H
Necessary Cautions and Directions to lying-in Women,
Pointing out their dangerous Consequences,
And the Means of PREVENTION and CURE.

A N E W E D I T I O N.

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L O N D O N,

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THE CHURCH

OF THE

ANGELIC ORDER
OF THE
SACRAMENTS
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P R E F A C E.

THOUGH the science of physic, through the indefatigable study, and assiduous application of learned and ingenious men for many ages past, is arrived to a very eminent degree; yet the utility resulting from former discoveries, not only proves the extent of its art, but amply justifies every laudable attempt to render it more universally curative.

Physic, indeed, unhappily labours under the same disadvantage with many other sciences, (I mean, with respect to promoting its improvement by beneficial discoveries) from the bigotted professors, who, through a narrowness of genius, or indolence of disposition, ever pursue the beaten path, and superciliously censure,

as almost presumptuous, the very proposal of a new method of practice, in cases the most difficult, and till then deemed incurable.

Such is the prevalence of conceit on the one hand, and avarice on the other, that many persons, who, either through merit or good fortune, having acquired a degree of fame in the profession, arrogate to themselves the highest praise, and such a precedence, as not only to lay a restraint on others, but, by their public writings, discountenance farther investigation of medical knowledge, as if, according to their *ipse dixit*, the *materia medica* was at its *ne plus ultra*.

To deter men of an inquisitive turn of mind, from pursuing the bias of their genius, they have industriously given out, that if there is a particular malady incident to the human species, for which no certain remedy has hitherto been discovered, such circumstance will furnish a number of pretenders, not only to have studied that malady, but also to have discovered its

its specific remedy ; at the same time they censure skilful physicians, and endeavour to disparage them on every occasion.

To all this they add, that through the number of persons afflicted, and consequently desirous of trying every method proposed for their relief, those who have hardiness enough to offer their discoveries to the public, will never want proper objects for the purposes of deception.

But this manner of reasoning can refer to empirics alone, and, by no means, respects the studied and experienced physician, whose incumbent duty it is, from his very function in life, to traverse the ample field of medicine, and render publicly useful, whatever in the course of his practice, he has found of salutiferous effect.

Permit me, on this occasion, to observe, that to discourage researches in the medical art, is repugnant to reason, the nature of things, and universal experience, as well as preventive of the most important good to mankind, which is
health

health of body ; for, if succeeding generations had implicitly followed the practice of physic as used in its infant state, what must have been the fatal, unavoidable consequence ? How many of our fellow creatures would daily groan under pains irremediable, and languish under diseases incurable ?

However great might be the number of remedies now in use, medicine would not have been yet overloaded, if physicians had not given into the practice of combining them together in a thousand forms, and of making a prodigious number of different compositions of them. Thus by stretching this kind of study beyond all reasonable bounds, for want of proper specifics to fix the uncertainty of opinions and practice, physic is turned into a fluctuating *polypharmacy*, consisting of various and innumerable recipes, generally received, and so far admired, as to bear the name of elegant prescriptions ; but, in fact, are often found to consist of ingredients more contradictory than efficacious.

Above

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Above all, to justify and even applaud the learned enquirer, it may be hinted, that nature inflicts no disorder on mankind, for which she has not provided a remedy; and consequently, that if there be a disease incurable, it is not because there is no remedy, but because that remedy is not discovered.

And, as Lord Bacon observes, in chap. xx. The subject of medicine, (man's body) says he, is of all other things in nature most susceptible of remedy; but then that remedy is most susceptible of error; for the same subtilty and variety of the subject, as it doth afford a large possibility of cure, so does it give great facility to error, Wherefore, as the art (especially as it is now managed) may well be placed among those arts that are most of all conjectural, so the enquiry into the same may be reckoned one of the most difficult, and therefore ought to be the more exact.

But while mean and fordid souls have weakly, though too successfully, attempted to prevent

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the investigation of the most extensive, as well as beneficial science; noble and generous minds have ever recommended and encouraged, not only its general study, but a peculiar application to those distempers, which have most baffled the skill of physicians; in consequence of which, it is well known that cures have been effected, though long before deemed impracticable.

There are many instances upon record, which prove the vast success of discovery in the healing art; and therefore indisputably shew the absolute necessity of continual researches.

The most eminent physicians have likewise encouraged, both by their example and recommendation, the constant pursuit of such an extensive study, particularly the learned Dr. Boerhaave—Physic, says he, is no science formed *A PRIORI*; it is no production of the human mind, framed by reasoning and deduction: it took its rise from a number of experiments casually made, without any expectation of what followed, and was only reduced

reduced into an art or system, by laying down the axioms (or all the general *truths*) which the particular experiments of physicians and others had hitherto demonstrated, comparing the effects of such experiments, and observing the uniform tendency thereof: and the whole body of such *universal* truths, collected from all the *particular* ones, is what we call the theory of physic: so far then as a number of experiments agree to establish any undoubted truth, so far they may be considered as constituting the doctrines of physic.

Again, from infinite observations and experiments, it evidently appears, that the truths of physic are none of them deduced A PRIORI, from any abstracted contemplations of the mind; but collected A POSTERIORI, from innumerable experiments casually made.

Thus supported by universal experience, as well as the opinion and example of the learned, I cannot be awed by the sophistical arguments of any writers, merely to apologize for their own ignorance, and deter the assiduous from the investigation of that knowledge which they have sought
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in vain: the following *Essay* is therefore laid before the public; who are not to be biaſſed by the parade of a name or title; but will cenſure or approve, according to the maxims of truth and reaſon.

The preſent diſeaſe, which has been the peculiar object of my ſtudy during a progreſs of upwards of twenty years through France, Italy, Turkey, and the Levant, has been generally deemed incurable, and the ordinary methods of treating it proved upon the whole little more than palliative. Hence, I am certain, I ſhall not be exempt from the cenſure of many, who deem this malady incurable, if I venture to pronounce it curable; which I hope to render ſufficiently evident, not only from the theory in the courſe of this work; but by the certain ſucceſs of my own practice, which, while it meets with the bleſſings of the afflicted, can abide the ſtricteſt examination of the learned.

From the prevalence of ſchirrous and cancerous diſorders, and their various treatment with ſo little ſucceſs, I determined moſt affiduouſly to apply myſelf to the ſtudy of the peculiar nature

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ture of the same, and the most probable means of finding out a specific remedy. In order to this I perused the best writers on physical subjects in all ages, reviewed the practices of the most eminent physicians, tried every expedient, and made the most minute observations from a great variety of experiments, during the course of many years constant practice.

But all this served only to confirm my opinion, that all the methods yet pursued were, as before observed, little more than palliatives or temporary reliefs.

Thus baffled in the use of every medicine hitherto used and recommended, I had, at length, recourse to amputation, but found that method of practice as ineffectual as the former; I have, indeed, the satisfaction to find some of the most eminent physicians coincide with my opinion concerning extirpation in general: among others is Dr. Monro, a celebrated professor at Edinburgh, as appears from the following case.

On the first of June, 1764, there was a consultation concerning the case of a young lady afflicted with a cancerous disorder in her breast:

Drs.

Drs. Monro, Rutherford, Cullen, and Auffin were present; Dr. Monro said he never advised extirpation; for out of two hundred patients who had had their breasts amputated, he had only seen three complete cures.

Thus being convinced that no certain method of curing confirmed cancers has hitherto been employed by physicians; at least, the general want of success in the common treatment, too plainly discovers, that any effectual method is very little known; I therefore concluded, that the pursuit of an effectual remedy for that most afflicting disorder, was worthy of all the care and pains I could possibly bestow upon it. Nor did I decline the study; for still persuaded of the truth of the abovementioned maxim, that every disease has its antidote, I persevered in enquiries and experiments, in the course of my travels, till at length, my labours were amply compensated by a fortunate incident. In my progress through the Levant, I met with an Armenian physician, who practised there on cancers with astonishing success. On my hinting to him the superior efficacy of his medicine to any I had ever known, both in my own practice and that of others, he
generously

generously imparted to me the valuable discovery. I made trial of it on several patients, both in schirrous and cancerous disorders, and found its efficacy answer my utmost expectations.

In order to extend the utility of the remedy imparted to me, I as generously communicated it to some foreign physicians of eminence, from whom I learn by daily information, that they practise it with as much success in other countries, as I do in England; either by dissolving schirrous tumours, or bringing them to a laudable suppuration; as well as eradicating and perfectly curing recent, yet confirmed cancers, without repelling the humour, or danger of its invading the nobler parts; which no other remedy was ever known to effect, as will appear by the cases hereunto annexed; and for further satisfaction, any gentleman of the faculty may examine my patients before I begin with them, visit them under the operation of the medicines, and see the event.

In order to justify my pretence, I have, in the first place, particularly shewn the source and progress of schirrous and cancerous disorders, as
conducive

conducive either to explain, or illustrate the nature and history of the disease; next I have laid down the general and particular treatment of other practitioners, with some observations on the same; and, in the last place, I have subjoined what I found to be almost infallibly attended with success in the cure of those distempers, and which I take more immediately to respect the theory of the disease, and effectually correspond with the quality and efficacy of the medicines used therein.

In stating which things, however my opinion may differ from others, I do not mean thereby to weaken their credit, nor reflect upon their diligence. And though I might claim some favour for the pains I have taken, yet I desire only such encouragement, as upon trial of the medicine I shall be found to deserve.

A NEW
PRACTICAL ESSAY
ON
CANCERS.

IN the following Treatise, I shall set forth a practice founded on rational principles, studiously avoiding all trifling speculations, such being calculated solely for mere amusement, as they no ways concur with what ought to be the main intention of our salutary profession; namely, that of relieving our fellow creatures from those bodily calamities, pains and distempers, which are the proper objects of our art.

In this our present enquiry, it may therefore not be amiss to follow the method of practice physicians observe, when they would inform themselves of the condition

of a sick person, in relating first the symptoms which commonly attend the disorder ; secondly, in discovering the causes which might occasion or produce them ; and lastly, in enumerating the consequences of its continuing, and the effects of an improper cure ; and how all these inconveniences thus observed necessarily flow from the duration of the distemper, under the circumstances of nature, and the endeavours for curing it.

Thus, for the right understanding the nature and cure of a Cancer, it is necessary that its causes and symptoms be judiciously investigated, accurately, fully, and methodically explained. I shall therefore, agreeable to method, in order to enable the reader to attain a just idea of our present subject, begin with a description of a schirrus, the origin and source of a Cancer, and examine and trace it in its progress to its ultimate malignant state.

But, before I proceed, a previous account of a morbid tumour will, I apprehend, greatly conduce to a further elucidation of the matter. To this intent, I shall use my earnest

earnest endeavours to communicate what I have experienced in a long and successful treatment of Cancers (both at home and in foreign parts) with that exactness which is due to truth, and that sincerity which is natural to every candid writer.

C H A P. I.

Of a MORBID TUMOUR.

A Morbid tumour is a preternatural elevation or eminence rising above the level of the neighbouring parts, from a collection of some humour retained contrary to the order of nature; and consequently is deemed a real disease.

Thus when any part of the human body is, by an afflux of some humour, swelled or encreased beyond its natural bulk, it is called a tumour. This species is named humoral, and of such only I shall here treat.

Tumours of this kind are either sanguine or lymphatic; the first is caused by fluxion;

the second by congestion. A tumour caused by fluxion, is that which is raised at once, or in a very small space of time, by reason of the fluidity and retention of blood; and a tumour by congestion, that which is produced by degrees, and almost insensibly, by reason of the lentor or spiffitude of the lymph. The causes are either internal or external, as will be described in the course of this work.

Inflammatory tumours are of the sanguine kind, as the phlogosis, erysipelas, and phlegmon. These, as they proceed from the same cause, namely a sudden repletion of blood, are nearly similar, differing only in degree of inflammation; of which hereafter.

Indolent or insensible tumours are of the lymphatic species, as the œdema and schirrus. These have all their gradations; and of these I shall treat more particularly, as being the presage and basis of a Cancer.

The pathognomonic or inseparable signs of an inflammatory tumour are heat, pain, tension, renitence, pulsation, and redness. These symptoms are all essential, but not always found in the same degree of intensity.

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The essential characteristics of a schirrus tumour are hardness, renitency; resisting the touch, indolence, changes not its natural colour, and has no particular heat. Those diagnostics likewise have their variations.

Tumours, both sanguine and lymphatic, have also their accidental differences, which proceed from the diversity of cause, their nature, similitude, and situation: a description of which, being not so material to our present subject, I shall omit as unnecessary.

Tumours are likewise simple, or complicated; benign, or malignant; universal, or partial; perfect, or imperfect; large, or small; legitimate, or spurious; circumscribed, or not circumscribed; cystrophic, or occult; or ulcerous, opened, and confirmed. They have also their periods, as commencement, encrease, state or consistence, diminution, or resolution; and they often terminate in a schirrus and Cancer, a gangrene or mortification; each of which in the sequel will be explained in its proper place.

CH A P. II.

Of the PHLEGMON, *or* INFLAMMATION.

EVERY part of the body is subject to repletions of blood from its circulation, followed by swelling, tension, redness, heat, and pain of the place affected; and which even bring on fevers, when they are considerable. All these kinds of repletion are called in general inflammatory tumours. The Greeks have named this kind of tumour *Φλεγμονή*, *i. e.* incendium, because of the heat which accompanies it; the Latins, for the same reason have called it *inflammatio*; in English and French both these appellations are used, but that of inflammation is the most common; and it is distinguished, according to the degree of the disorder, into the phlogosis, when the symptoms are slight; and phlegmon, or inflammation, when the symptoms are more prevalent.

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This tumour has four periods. Its commencement and augmentation, that is, when the symptoms we have mentioned are begun, and continue to encrease; its state or consistence, when the accidents remain in the same degree; diminution or resolution, when they begin to decline, and the tumour dissipates gradually.

Sometimes, instead of resolution, a suppuration happens; in which, after the symptoms are in the highest degree, the tumour dissolves, and forms an abscess or imposthume, a middle state betwixt resolution and gangrene: at other times, which is still worse, in the very state of the disease, the tumour grows black, subsides, becomes indolent, and a gangrene supervenes, and soon after a sphacelus or perfect mortification.

Phlegmon or inflammation is external or internal; external, when it occupies the exterior parts, as the breasts, armpits, &c. internal when it seizes upon the *viscera*, or some other inward part. It is to be distinguished by the pulse as soon as it raises to any considerable degree; by anatomical knowledge; by the respective complaints of

patient; and by the known analogous state of exterior inflammations.

Fever is another essential symptom of inflammation, especially if great and internal, sometimes it precedes the inflammation, and contributes to produce it; and sometimes it depends on the same cause which produced the inflammation: but when these circumstances fail, at least, it always succeeds the inflammation, however inconsiderable it may be; because the disorder alone, which the inflammatory repletion makes in the œconomy of the circulation, must bring it on, even independently of the other circumstances which may conduce to it.

Sometimes it is circumscribed, that is, limited; and sometimes not circumscribed, that is, when its limits are undetermined, and end in degradation. It is systrophic, when it tends to suppuration, and not systrophic, when it tends to resolution,

These are criterions sufficiently certain, to determine on the different kinds of inflammation; and as there are three other species of principal tumours, namely œdema, erysipelas, and schirrus, there must result particular

cular combinations from the concurrence of each of those tumours with inflammation. Thus it may either be simple or complicated with some of them, which constitutes different species of inflammation, erysipelatous inflammation, œdematous inflammation, and schirrous inflammation.

The breasts of women are subject to inflammation, at least, as much as the other parts of the body. If it spreads all over the breast, it is then universal, which is, however, very rare; sometimes it is confined to one part of it, and it is then partial.

It is thus, that a judgment is made of the swelling and tension of this part, from the space which it occupies; from the resistance perceived there; from its heat; from its redness, and pain. To these symptoms, which essentially belong to the inflammation of the breasts, several others are commonly joined; which, although less essential, claim, nevertheless, considerable attention; as the suppression of the breast-milk, when the inflammation happens in child-bed women; or of the menses, when it happens during the time they ought to flow.

The

The theory of the causes of inflammation is necessarily reduced to fixing the causes which may give rise to the repletion of the blood vessels of the part affected ; to its irruption or deviation into the collateral lymphatics ; and to the extravasation of some of the blood, which is made by the laceration of the sanguine, or lymphatic vessels, and diffused in the texture of the parts. The first produces a simple phlogosis ; the second a common inflammation ; the third a systrophic inflammation. These three causes are subservient to each other, in such a manner, that repletion brings on irruption, when it is too great, or lasts too long ; and that both produce extravasation in similar circumstances.

There are then three principal classes, which include all the causes of the inflammation of the breasts ; and nothing more remains wanting in order to the thorough elucidation of this theory, than to enumerate the particular causes, which may alone produce inflammation ; and they produce it more certainly, in a greater degree, and with more danger, when they combine with any of the antecedent dispositions that augment their

their power, or which dispose the breasts to be more affected by them.

These antecedent dispositions are of two kinds; the one universal, and dependant on the quantity and state of the blood; the other partial, and relative only to the particular state of the breast and its vessels.

The general antecedent dispositions are a plethora, or too great plenitude of blood; the rarefaction of it, or its disposition to rarify, which is equivalent to a plethora; to which ought to be added, the too great use of wine, spirituous liquors, immoderate walking; violent passions, such as anger; too strong exercise, sudden cold, unexpected fright, or violent grief, *exedit animam ægritudo*; excessive hot seasons, &c. because all these causes either introduce a too great rarefaction in the blood, or make it circulate with too much impetuosity.

The local, or particular antecedent dispositions, are, natural laxity, or want of due elasticity in the contexture of the breast, which occasions its failing of power, to press out the blood; obstructions; schirrous stagnations; schirruses of the breast, or of some

of

of its parts, which turn the course of the blood; the varicous dilation of the vessels, which facilitates the stagnation; the particular defect of some part of the breast, which may happen to be bruised, wounded, torn, compressed, ulcerated, &c. so that the blood can scarcely circulate with freedom.

It is only by weighing the nature and degree of each of these dispositions, and by duly considering the combinations they may have, with the different causes of inflammation of the breasts, that we can approach to a just estimation of the degree of inflammation; and that we are enabled to treat of the danger that attends it, and of the consequences, against which precautions are to be taken.

The inflammation of the breast is certainly very dangerous. The danger that attends it may nevertheless vary, according to many different circumstances, which have been already enumerated in the foregoing symptoms.

M E T H O D of C U R E.

TH E R E are three principal intentions, that should be proposed in the treatment of the inflammation of the breasts.

1. To put a stop to the progress of the repletion in the vessels; to diminish that which is already made; and, by this means, to prevent the progress of the inflammation, and mitigate the violence of that which already subsists.
2. To relax the constricted fibres of the breast; to diminish, or wholly to remove, the strangulation of the capillary vessels, and to prevent the course of the circulation from being obstructed.
3. To quiet, or mitigate the pain, which aggravates all the symptoms, and which is the principal cause of the constriction of the fibres of the breast.

The first of these intentions is the most urgent and the most consequential. It is only to be effected by bleeding, and that according to the degree of the disorder, and the habit and strength of the patient. There are several ways of affecting the second intention: and consequently those may be selected, which are judged to be most agreeable to the particular

cular circumstances that occur ; or, if it be approved of, they may all be tried successively, according to the exigence: internally, a semollient and cooling emulsions, externally, cataplasms, fomentations, embrocations, &c.

To fulfil the third intention, recourse must be had to the use of the relaxing and anodyne topics, which have been proposed for the second intention ; and the use of them must be persisted in without remission, till the part is freed from the tension, by which means a diminution of the pain is generally procured ; if not the use of narcotics, which become necessary, when simple relaxants are not found sufficient. But they are given only in very little doses, which are repeated every fourth or fifth hour ; in such manner, that the quieting, or, at least, mitigating the acuteness of the pain, may be brought about, without throwing the patients into a dosing state.

General

*General precautions to be observed in
the treatment of the inflammation
of the breasts.*

THE patients must be kept in bed in the most still manner possible. Moreover, silence and ease of mind must be recommended to them ; as these circumstances are very necessary for the cure. The patients should also be nourished with very weak broths, made with veal and chicken ; or, what is more proper, they should be confined to simple chicken water. It would be still better to boil in these broths or water some cooling plants, unless the reducing them to the form of an emulsion, with the cold seeds, should be preferred. However strict this regimen may appear, and however weak the patient may be, it should be invariably observed, for the first four or five days : but there should not be allowed any meat till there be a certain proof that the resolution is begun.

When the pulse grows weak, endeavours must be made to reanimate it, by mild cordials : which are diaphoretic, and proper to
excite

excite a breathing sweat, that relaxes the constricted parts: but, nevertheless, there must be great circumspection in the use of these cordials.

After the first days, when the vessels are freed from the constriction, by a sufficient number of bleedings, and the pain of the inflammation begins to subside, means must be used to empty the first passages, by apozems made of softening and emollient herbs. These slight minoratives are the only means to surmount, or, at least, to diminish, the paroxysms, which make the greatest danger of the disease; as they threaten the breasts with a fresh repletion, when they are great. When the resolution is perfect, or much advanced, the patient should take for some days together, twice in the day, that is, in the morning and evening, broth, or apozems. It is proper also to purge the patient a little more effectually.

Obfer-

Observations on the foregoing practice:

OPINION has been a long time divided, with relation to the place where it is proper to bleed, in the inflammation of the breast; a skilful physician will, from the symptoms and circumstances, and a proper attention to the doctrine of evacuation and revulsion, soon determine the preference.

Æginetus and his followers have recommended the giving no food in inflammatory cases, during the first three or four days: it is certain very little nourishment should be taken by a patient in a case so acute; and with respect to this every body is agreed.

There are cases undoubtedly, where the patient may, and ought to be, confined to a strict regimen, for the first days; but I am not of opinion it should be made a general rule; and I suspect that the dogmatical decision of Æginetus is less the fruit of his experience, than the consequence of his prejudice in favour of the system of those who made this severity in diet the common basis of their practice. Moreover, a fresh supply of

good chyle brings into the blood a cooling, anodyne, and balsamic quality ; and, by its diluting the juices, prevents spissitude and acrimony.

Formerly many physicians applied to the inflamed breast astringent and repellent topics actually cold, or such as were prepared with vinegar ; and, as they abated at first the ardour of the inflammation, the patient perceived for the present a sensible relief from them : but this slight success should be no inducement to imitate this practice, of which the consequences are dangerous ; because they thicken the blood, and contract the fibres of the part affected ; upon which they immediately act, and therefore injure the circulation, which augments the inflammation, retards the resolution, and often brings on a gangrene, suppuration, or schirrus. It is for this reason, as the real good of the patient should always be preferred to their momentary and delusive ease, none but warm topics, and such as are proper to relax, attenuate, and remove constriction, should ever be applied.

C H A P. III.

Of the SCHIRRUS of the BREASTS.

THE schirrus of the breast is a kind of tumour, which has five essential characteristics, 1st, It is hard, renitent, and resists the touch; 2dly, Indolent or insensible, even when pressed; 3dly, It does not change the natural colour of the part, till it becomes more profound, larger, and then often turns livid; 4thly, It is gradually formed by way of congestion; 5thly, it has no particular heat more than what is natural.

The Greeks have called this tumour *Σκίρρος* because of its hardness, for *skirros* signifies properly in Greek, a piece of marble, *fragmentum marmoris*; the Latins have used the same name to describe it; and from thence we adopt the same appellation.

Schirruses are common to all parts of the body, both internal and external, particularly the glandular parts, as being those which separate the thick humours; and it is easy to judge from thence, that the breasts, the liver, and the uterus, must be peculiarly subject to them; which experience confirms.

It is proper to distinguish the different kinds of schirruses; because it has some effect on the prognostic that should be made. The schirrus extends sometimes over the whole compass of the breast, and is then called universal or total: but it is more frequently confined only to one place, and then bears the name of partial.

A more important difference results from the degree of indolence and resistance.--- When the schirrus is very hard, and resists the touch, and at the same time insensible, even when pressed, it bears the name of a perfect, legitimate, or complete schirrus. They are called, on the contrary, imperfect, illegitimate, or incipient schirruses, when the resistance is not perfect, and they preserve some feeling, at least when pressed. The schirrus is often attended, at its borders, with œdema, or inflammation; and then it bears the name of œdematous schirrus, or phlegmonic schirrus: whereas it is called simple, when it has only the characteristic of a schirrus, without œdema, or inflammation. In the breast the volume of the schirrus is easily distinguished, and then it is said to be circumscribed. But when it
lies

lies deep, the extent is not to be distinguished in the same manner; and, in such case, is said to be not circumscribed.

Moreover, the legitimate, or perfect schirrus, and even sometimes the illegitimate or imperfect, tumefy, and are painful, and subject to shootings more or less frequently.--- These schirruses become then carcinomatous, and of a lead colour, the skin which covers them being as it were marbled with various, livid, or black veins, forming angles or protuberances; and degenerate into cancers, as will be shewn in the chapter on cancers.

The causes of a schirrus in the breast are all those which create a spissitude in the blood, or in some other of the humours that are circulated in the part, or are separated there, when they are obstructed, accumulate, and grow thick, so as to produce a hard, indolent and resisting tumour. But as there are only three humours that circulate in the breast, the blood, the lymph, and the milk, the production of the schirrus of the breast must therefore be attributed either to the collection of blood, to that of the lymph, or to that of the milky humour, which thickens there. But it is apparent, that it cannot be

attributed to the collection of blood. 1st, Because such collection is always attended with heat, and there is none in schirruses. 2dly, Because this collection is never made without a sensible augmentation of the red colour of the part; and in the schirrus the part preserves its natural colour. 3dly, Because the collection of blood is made suddenly, and by the way of fluxion; whereas the schirrus is formed gradually, and by the way of congestion. Therefore every thing duly considered, the schirrus of the breast commonly arise from the collection of lymph, that stagnates and thickens in its own vessels, which kind ought to be called lymphatic; or from the collection of milk, which is detained in its own vessels; and being accumulated there, grows thick, which ought to be called milky.

These principles laid down, nothing more is wanting to explain the schirrus of the breast, than to examine the causes which produce it there, or which may occasion this collection of lymph, or breast-milk. But these causes are of two kinds; some general and efficient, which, by thickening these humours in the blood, render them subject to

to be retained in the breast; the others, particular and occasional, which determine these thick humours to stagnate, particularly in the breast; and to produce a schirrus there by preference.

The general causes capable of producing the thickening of the lymph, and of the milk, in the mass of blood, are all the known causes that thicken the blood itself; as, 1st, The too great quantity of food which is eaten, or the vicious or gross nature of that chosen: 2dly, Faultiness of digestion, the general consequence of intemperance, or of bad diet; from whence it proceeds, that the blood receives only an ill prepared chyle, which thickens it: 3dly, The uneasy passions of the mind, with which the patient is strongly affected for a long time, that weaken the circulation of the blood, and consequently thicken it; 4thly, The vicious ferments with which the blood is infected; such as venereal, scorbutic, or scrophulous ferments.

Under the general or remote causes may also be comprehended, whatever impedes the ingress of a due supply of chyle into the blood, to recruit, and keep the same in its

proper state of fluidity ; such are obstructions of the mesenteric glands, or rupture of the lacteal vessels : hence, for want of sufficient moisture, ensue a ficcidity of the juices, and a glandular consumption, attended with a dry and clammy mouth ; copious and continual discharges of the recrementitious or excrementitious humours, as immoderate evacuations by stool, urine, or perspiration ; which, by constantly draining the serum, renders the blood spissid and acrimonious.

But these causes do not produce any schirrus in the breast, unless there be occasional, or local causes, which determine the lymph or the breast-milk to stagnate there in particular. In the number of these causes may be reckoned, 1st, The inspissation which may happen to the lymph, and to the breast-milk, when the patient has had commerce with a man injured by some venereal taint, or by suffering an infected child to draw the nipple. 2dly, The use of topical applications too cold, or astringent, that have been imprudently employed to mitigate pain. 3dly, The sudden contraction that exterior cold causes in the breasts, when too much exposed to the air ; or when
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the women are so imprudent as to dip their hands in cold water, during the time of their menses, or lochia. 4thly, The undue tone of the breast, whether it be natural, as in women of a soft and lax formation; or caused by blows, or contusions on the part. 5thly, Finally, the obstructions formed of a long time in the breast, which there impede the circulation of the lymph, and the discharge of the breast-milk. These obstructions are common to women who use that blameable practice of repelling the breast-milk to prevent suckling.

I am sensible, that it is no easy matter to persuade some mothers to suckle their own children: however, it is incumbent on us to use our endeavours to induce them to perform this important duty, where it is not inconsistent with some present disorder. But if natural affection, and the innumerable inconveniences to which the mother exposes her child by refusing to suckle it, are not prevalent to do this indispensable duty; let her but consider, that by changing the natural course of her milk, she draws upon herself many diseases; such as abscesses, schirrous, and cancerous tumours; which
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are worse than any thing that can possibly happen to her by suckling her children.

It remains then, that schirrusses arise either from a fault of the lymph, or from a defect in the recrementitious or excrementitious humours, which are separated in the different viscera, and, in reality, are the general causes that equally act on all the parts of the human body; but which are afterwards determined to produce schirrusses in particular places, from different circumstances. Thus a coagulation of the milk brings on schirrusses in the breasts and womb; a spissid bile creates a schirrus in the liver; an inspissation of the splenic lymph, engenders the schirrus of the spleen; the pancreatic humour, that of the pancreas; the chyle, that of the mesenteric glands; the lymph, that of the conglobated glands.

The concurrence of some of these different causes produce, at first, a slight collection, which scarcely merits any name, except that of repletion; but this repletion encreases gradually, by the continuance of the same causes; and, in encreasing, becomes daily more hard, and more resisting. It is thus that a schirrus is formed by progression, insensible, or at least very slow; till at last,
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the tumour, after being concealed, makes itself known by its symptoms.

M E T H O D of C U R E.

SCHIRRUSSES in general are to be treated in two different manners. First, to endeavour the cure of those which are recent and imperfect, of a moderate size, that happen in women otherwise of a good constitution, and in health, and in whom the menses suffer no disorder: wherefore I shall deliver the curative treatment which should be adopted on these occasions. Secondly, I shall speak of the treatment merely palliative, which is proper in the contrary cases, and to which prudence demands a confinement of the practice, as in schirruses that are of too long standing, perfect, legitimate, of very great magnitude, and which happen to women who are of a bilious, cachectic, or ill habit of body. Thirdly, I shall add some reflections on the manner that is proper to be pursued when there is the least reason to suspect the schirrus threatens to degenerate into a cancer. Finally, I shall enumerate some particular remedies that are proposed for the cure of this disorder.

Whenever there is occasion to resolve tumours so hard as schirruses, it is requisite, 1st, To dilute the mass of humours, and render them more fluid, in order that they may have the power of liquefying the matter which forms the schirrus. 2dly, To mollify at the same time, and relax the tension of the schirrous part, in order to give greater liberty to the rarefaction of the indurated matter, by the use of the most efficacious aperitives and dissolvents. Finally, to strengthen the elasticity of the part, and set all its fibres in an oscillating motion, capable of procuring the extrusion of the liquified matter, and of promoting the resolution of it.

To effect these four intentions, the following remedies should be employed, as being most efficacious in this case. First, the blood and lymph are to be attenuated and diluted by the use of broths, apozems, &c. in which may be dissolved, at discretion, some of the following aperitive salts; *flores martiales*, *tartarum vitriolatum*, *ens joviale*, or *terra foliata tartari*. The roots of eringo; wild succory, fresh millipedes, or the depurated juice of chervil, may be occasionally added to the above liquors.

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If the blood be acrid, and the schirrus is supposed to arise from a scorbutic or scrophulous cause, some of my new discovered medicines may be administered with success, which are the most powerful antiscorbutics known. If the tumour is supposed to proceed from a venereal infection the same medicines, the idiosyncrasy duly considered, will prove equally efficacious.

In order to mollify and resolve the schirrus, and relax the too great tension, cataplasms of my discutient liniment, are to be applied to the part affected; it being the most powerful dissolvent and antischirrous remedy ever yet known. During the course of the foregoing remedies, several attentions must be had. The *first* of which is, to bleed the patient from time to time, particularly when the menses are suppressed, or have ceased. The *second*, to purge now and then, in order to evacuate the humours, and particularly the bile, that the medicine may have dissolved. These remedies should be insisted upon more or less, according to the urgency of the occasion; for in a disease of so great moment as the schirrus of the breast, nothing ought to be neglected. It is from the foregoing pathology,

thology, and method of cure, that my practice has been attended with such extraordinary success in schirrous complaints.

It is evident from experience, that nothing hitherto of sufficient efficacy for perfectly dissolving schirruses has been discovered by physicians: yet there are many pretended specific remedies now daily recommended for that purpose; the chief of which I shall here enumerate.

The first are the hemlock and the nightshade, which are boasted for the dissolving of schirruses; and if it were true, as is pretended, that these plants cure cancers, there would be reason to regard them as excellent dissolvents: for a schirrus can never be cured, unless the humour that forms it can be sufficiently dissolved, to be capable of being dissolved, or brought to suppuration, which can be the effect only of more powerful dissolvents, as we have already mentioned, and will be farther illustrated in the following chapter.

The next are antimonial. It is certain that antimony contains many excellent virtues: but these are greatly confined while that mineral remains in a solid indissoluble state;

state, whether natural or chymical; for in this solid form it becomes not only oppressive and hurtful to the stomach, by its asperities and weight; but cannot with safety and ease exert its efficacy on the mass of blood; and, in such a form, it is now rejected as a specific. Therefore a flattering presumption should not be had of the certainty of curing schirruſſes by antimonial, and much less should it be promised to the patient; and as Dr. Boerhaave observes in his Chymical History of Antimony, that that mineral when added in the lump, or grossly bruised, to diet drinks it seems to communicate very little virtue, or scarce more than a common stone thereto; and, consequently, we must expect as little of its salutary quality to be imparted to the human body when given in the solid form of pills.

The constituents of antimony, notwithstanding a late pretension to a new discovery of its components, were well known both to the ancient and modern physicians; namely, 1st, Common or external sulphur; 2dly, Philosophic or internal sulphur, which renders metals friable; 3dly, Metal, of which is made its regulus; whereof, if cups or drink-

drinking-vessels be cast, the wine that is put in them will become emetic ; and of this regulus cast in small moulds, are also made those commonly called antimonial pills, which being swallowed will operate considerably by vomit, by which violent strainings, they become dangerous in schirrous and cancerous complaints. Thus antimony, as well as other noble medicines, by falling into unskilful hands, lose both their utility and reputation.

The *third* is mercury. As this remedy is supposed to dissolve ganglions, nodes, and exostoses, there was reason to believe, that it might dissolve schirruses in like manner. But experience has, long since, shewn the contrary ; and I have never seen any effect from it, or, at least, never any but such as were inadequate in schirrus tumours, which took their origin from scorbutic, scrophulous, or venereal causes.

The *fourth* pretended remedy are caustics. Some physicians, and surgeons not knowing that the properties both of mercury and antimony are specifically confined to particular maladies, rashly conclude on the certainty of these medicines in dissolving schirruses ;

ruffles; wherefore those practitioners substitute caustics in order to extirpate the tumour. But, alas! after cruelly tormenting their patients, they meet with equal disappointment. Moreover, the operation is not only severe and unsuccessful, but tends to enrage the disorder.

Many learned and experienced physicians being convinced from repeated trials, and the testimony of practitioners, unanimously affirm, not only the inefficacy of the foregoing pretended specifics, but that no other remedy has been hitherto discovered either in the mineral, animal, or vegetable system for dissolving schirrusies; therefore they confine their practice to the palliative treatment, which consists only in checking the progress of the disorder, and mitigating the symptoms. These two intentions they endeavour to effect by the following remedies.

Bleeding in small quantities from time to time, when the pulse appears full, or the schirrus is painful; especially, when the menses fail by suppression, or cessation. 2dly, To purge the patient now and then with gentle cathartics, incapable of heating or irritating the bowels. 3dly, Dissolvent, dilu-

tent, and humectant medicines. 4thly, Proper regimen, moderate exercise, and tranquility of mind; and care should be likewise taken, that they do not catch cold, or if that should happen, to moderate and quiet the cough; or, by the use of pectorals and narcotics, to hinder the bad effect, which the schirrus may suffer by violent fits of coughing.

The topics are cataplasms, made with linseed, the pulp of the boiled roots of white briony, wild cucumber, dwarf-elder, &c. formed into a cataplasm, which is to be applied upon the tumour, and to be renewed occasionally; or the application of dissolvent plaisters, as of hemlock, nightshade, gums, &c. This is called the palliative cure, which affords only a temporary relief, whilst the disease continues its progress.

I shall here omit to speak of illegitimate schirrusses, as being tumours very different from the true sort, but which resemble them so much, especially in the beginning, as to impose on the patients; and even sometimes, on physicians under whose care they fall. Such are the steatoma, meliceris, atheroma, sarcoma, and scrophulous tumours. They
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are very small, and imperceptible in the beginning; yet they gradually grow, so as to acquire a considerable bulk; and may by accident, under certain circumstances be inflamed, turn to abscesses and ulcers, or become schirrous and even cancerous.

C H A P. IV.

Of a C A N C E R.

A Cancer, in general, is a schirrous tumour, which, by a successive progress, becomes exquisitely painful, and attended with shootings, as it were, now and then darting; which is called *dolor lancinans*.

In order to know the causes, that occasion a schirrus to degenerate into a cancer, it is proper to examine gradually and minutely the changes which happen to the schirrus in this case. First, the schirrus becomes painful and subject to shootings, more or less acute, particularly when handled. The schirrus swells, and enlarges faster than at other times; and, in enlarging it changes its form and figure, becoming unequal, rugged, pointed,

pointed, and angular; in Greek called *τραχωδες*, in Latin *scabrosus*. Some of these angles become daily more pointed, and more projecting; and the skin, which covers them, grows in proportion, more red, smooth, and distended. The principal pain, and almost all the shootings of the cancer, tend to these angles or protuberances, which germinate in abundance; and the whole of the disorder seems to be concentrated there. The cancer in this state bears the name of confirmed, but occult cancer.

At last, the skin, in consequence of being stretched by the tumefaction of the cancer, cracks and bursts; which change extends itself soon to the body of the cancer, that cracks and bursts in the same manner. From the cracks or fissures, there ouzes an ichorous serum, that increases gradually. The colour of the skin, which covers the schirrus, changes also, and becomes by degrees brown, marbled, and of a lead or livid colour; and, in short, the schirrus seems surrounded with large black veins, resembling the claws of a sea crab. Whence the Greeks gave this sort of tumour the name of *καρκίνος* or *καρκίνωμα*, and the Latins that of *cancer*.

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It continues to grow, and becomes every day more deformed and hideous.

When the cancer is divided, its edges invert or turn outwards; and open more and more, without any apparent cause. In this state, it is called an open or running cancer. The shootings and pains go on continually increasing, in the same manner as the opening; and the cancer, instead of a true *pus*, affords nothing but a *sanies*, that is very fetid and cadaverous. There are continually generated, from the body of the cancer, or its edges, a spongy, sprouting, and rotten flesh, which soon becomes putrid, and falls off, and which is daily renewed by a kind of vegetation. All the parts which join to the cancer, or are near to it, participate of its symptoms; for if it be in the breast, the axillary glands are affected, irritated, inflamed, and often ulcerated from the cancerous humour, which is there conveyed by the *vasa rorifera*, or lymphatic vessels of Bilhus. Lastly, a slow fever is joined to this number of other evils: and the paroxysms or exacerbations are more or less acute, and more or less durable, according as the cancer is bigger or less; as the humour

it affords is more or less putrid, the pains it causes are more or less violent; and the state of the blood is in its nature more or less depraved.

That all the preceding symptoms of a cancer may appear, it is reasonable to think, that the schirrous or obstructing matter is rarefied; otherwise the growing cancer could not so suddenly swell, and become so large as we observe it: but this rarefaction is irregular. It is thus, that plaster tempered with water, swells and extends itself, in proportion as it hardens. It is thus iron filings, mixt with urine, and pounded garlick, form a mixture that tumefies in growing hard; and it is thus, that the solutions of metals, and of salts, form, by raising themselves, kinds of vegetation. Such a fermentative quality I admit in the schirrous matter.

We likewise observe various other fermentations, and surprising phænomena, produced in the human body, by the *miasma* of pestilential diseases, and the poisons of different animals; as that of the viper, tarantula, &c. but particularly in the hydrophobia, where the human nature seems partly to be transmuted into the canine species, as appears from
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the barking and sympathetic aversion to water. *Miserimum genus morbi, in quo simul æger et siti, et aquæ, metu cruciatur.* Celsus.

Differences of Cancers.

CANCERS are distinguished into recent or incipient, and into inveterate or confirmed. The cancer is incipient, when the schi rus becomes painful, and attended with shootings at great intervals, without the form of the tumour being apparently changed. It is confirmed, when the shootings are more frequent, and the tumour has changed considerably its form, and is changing it daily. The cancer, whether incipient, or confirmed is concealed or occult, so long as the tumour preserves its intireness, without any division. It is open or ulcerated, when the tumour is divided, let it be ever so little. The cancer is malignant, when it is attended with great pain, and violent symptoms; and it is kindly, when the pain is more supportable, and the symptoms not so bad. Lastly, the cancer comes from an internal cause, when it depends on the depravity of the blood, without any external

cause, that has given rise to it ; or, at most, with a very slight external one ; and it comes from an external cause, when it may be attributed to some accident ; as a stroke, contusion, bruise, &c.

Hence it follows that cancers are incipient, or confirmed ; benign, or malignant ; proceed from internal, or external causes : with respect to the part affected ; as the liver, spleen, womb, and private parts of both sexes ; the breasts, the lips, tongue, tonsils, uvula, nose, eyes, the skin, &c. all which demand an early care and attention ; otherwise the disorder will carry off the patient rapidly in excruciating pain ; especially, when the cancer is ulcerated in a great degree ; very painful and subject to great shootings ; changed in its figure much, and still changing continually, attended with frequent hæmorrhages, malignant, and happening in women of a bad habit, who have no menses, or have them irregular.

With relation to the causes which produce a cancer, it is material to observe, that they are precisely the same with those in which schirrusses turn to cancers. The first is, by the increase of the natural heat of the blood,
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by a general plethora, by a fever, or by heating aperitive medicines; the improper use of spirituous liquors; heating diet; acrimony of the juices; immoderate watchings; over great exercise; violent passions; suppression of the saline excretions, as the bile, urine, perspiration, &c. which powerfully irritate and rarefy the schirrous matter. The second is, the increase of heat in the schirrus itself, by some particular cause, as inflammation; frequent contrectation or handling the dissolving remedies, imprudently applied, as plasters, caustics, &c. And lastly, by some contusion, compression, blow, or wound on the schirrus; whence it earlier degenerates into a cancer.

General method of treating Cancers.

AS all eminent physical writers and practitioners ingenuously affirm, that no specific whatever (from the days of Hippocrates, four hundred thirty-two years before Christ, down to the present time) has been discovered for the radical cure of confirmed cancers, the palliative method, therefore, is the only one now by them recommended;

commended; and is confined to the four following intentions: 1st, to diminish and retard the progress of the disorder, by internal remedies; 2dly, to produce the same effects by proper external remedies: 3dly, to quiet, or, at least, to mitigate the violence of the pains: 4thly, to remove the hæmorrhages that come on too frequently. These indications they endeavour to fulfil by an exact regimen; bleeding at proper intervals; purging the patient from time to time with gentle cathartics; diluting and cooling broths; diuretics; chalybeated whey, and mineral waters; asses, goats, or cows milk, if the stomach can bear such diet.

Specific remedies proposed by some authors for the cure of Cancers, but bad, or suspected.

THE first is mercury and mercurial preparations, particularly the *mercurius dulcis* or calomel, greatly boasted as a specific in the cure of cancers by Dr. Buckner, in his thesis *De medicamentorum mercurialium usu in cancro*, maintained at Hall, in 1755.

Dr.

Dr. Gmelin supports the same practice in his dissertation, intitled *Specifica methodus recentior cancrum curandi*, printed at Tübinges, in 1757.

Dr. Sanchez, a physician of eminence in Moscovy, recommends the corrosive mercury sublimate, dissolved in spirit of wine; which, in fact, is the same with that which Boerhaave has intimated in his Elements of Chymistry, part the third, *Processu* 198, and which Dr. Van-Swieten has made public.

This remedy was in use at Paris a long time before, as observed in the third volume of Dr. Astruc's Treatise on the Venereal Disease, in French; and, a much longer time since, in Siberia, among the Ostiaks, who inhabit it, as Captain Muller has recited in his Relation of the Manners and Customs of the Ostiaks, printed at Berlin, 1720, who used it to cure the Neapolitan or French disease.

I must here observe, that corrosive sublimate is a very violent poison, and proves mortal in the quantity of a few grains; nor will it, though ever so finely levigated, dissolve in spirit of wine: yet its points may be somewhat blunted thereby. The experiment is easily tried; for if spirit of wine and
sublimate

sublimate be put into a phial and shook, the liquor will become cloudy; and if suffered to stand for a while, the sublimate will precipitate or fall to the bottom undissolved; and, consequently, will still retain a corrosive quality, as its sharp saline spiculæ are not completely broken by that menstruum, nor rendered sufficiently mild, and fit for internal use. Hence it follows, that those persons who take sublimate for the venereal disease, either in brandy, diet drinks, or pills, as it is now practised, are subject to anxieties, palpitations, and *marasmus* or bodily decay. This practice is reckoned pernicious and blameable, therefore it ought not to be employed internally.

The effects of this poisonous corrosive sublimate when taken, are violent griping pains, with a distension of the belly, vomiting of slimy frothy matter, sometimes mixed with blood, and stools of the same; an intolerable heat and thirst, with cold sweats, tremblings, convulsions, &c.

The next mineral poison that has been externally employed for the cure of cancers is arsenic. Its deadly effects are nearly similar with those of sublimate corrosive; for the
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salts there, together with the mercurial particles, do compose pungent chrystals; so, without all doubt, the regulus of this mineral gives a like force to the saline bodies, which, without this weight, could be but of small effect. The main difference is, that in arsenic we have an addition of sulphur, which does not only strengthen the action of the other parts, by binding and keeping them together; but, consisting besides of many hot and fiery corpuscles, promotes the inflammation of those wounds which the saline spiculæ make in the breast; and other parts were applied.

It is surprising what should induce practitioners to employ arsenic for cancers, unless it was the hopes of dissolving them by caustic remedies. I know that many authors have spoke of this practice, and have quoted the success of Fuscus's powder, which is a composition of arsenic, snake-root, and foot. Some others, among whom is Etmuller, propose the powder of lizards and toads calcined; to which, to render it more active, they add a little orpiment, black pepper, common salt, and dry foot. Others again praise arsenic mixed with balsam of sulphur.

Dare

Dare any one venture to apply caustics of this nature to any part of the body, especially to those near the heart, or large vessels? Moreover, it is to be feared, lest the cancerous humour, which is a sort of internal caustic, might be fermented and expanded by the motion of the external caustic, which being conveyed into the mass of blood, causes fatal accidents. I remember reading of a terrible catastrophe related by John Fernelius, first physician to Henry II. of France, of a woman who had a cancer in her breast, to which was applied a composition of arsenic and sublimate corrosive: she died in six days after the application in shocking agonies; such as happen to persons who swallow these poisons.

Caustics are always of a malignant nature, more or less, according to their preparations and mixtures; and are always dangerous and pernicious in cancers. Even Fuscus, that famous reputed curer of cancers, being convinced of the fatal effects of his arsenical powder, conscientiously abandoned the same; and it is to be wished, that the cancer practitioners in this metropolis, who are said to use this powder, as a caustic, would entirely

entirely reject and abhor it as pernicious; then we should not have those melancholy accounts of so many miserable patients lingering in pain and dying in torment.

Having thus particularly discoursed of the nature of these two poisons, I shall not need to insist upon any more out of the mineral kingdom.

The next remedies proposed for curing Cancers, are poisonous plants, the same as for schirrusses. The first of these is the night-shade, or *bella donna*, otherwise *solanum furiosum*, or *solanum melanocerasos*, that Linnæus calls *atropa*. Even to the present, this plant has been regarded as a poison; and the bad effects of it are attested by Schenckius, Paulli, Webster, Lusitanus, Albrecht, and others.

Dr. Alberti, professor of physic, however, maintained at Hall, in 1739, a thesis, *de bella donna tanquam specifico in cancro, presertim occulto*; and is allowed by the date of this thesis to be the first who proposed the *bella donna* or nightshade, as a specific against Cancers, when taken inwardly. As to the leaves and juice of this plant, externally they have been a long time used as a topic in the open Cancers, to alleviate the pains.

Dr. Lambergen, professor at Groningen, is the second physician who has administered the *bella donna* internally, by the persuasion of Dr. Winter, professor at Leyden. He has given, in detail, the process for preparing it, with the variations which happened in the treatment, in an inaugural discourse, printed at Groningen, in 1754, under the title of *Lectio inauguralis sistens ephemeridum personati carcinomatis*. His authority was sufficient to engage some gentlemen both here and elsewhere to try the effect of the medicine. But the want of success in their trials, the number of persons, who, at this time, suffer and languish under this fatal disorder, and the silence that is now kept with respect to the efficacy of this plant, have made me judge, as well as from my own experience, that the consequence has not answered the hopes they had conceived. And, indeed, Dr. Buckner, who wrote a year after Lambergen, says, in express terms, that the nightshade so much praised, does not cure Cancers effectually, nor is it to be administered with safety. In these circumstances, prudence demands that a remedy should be foreborne, as experience has

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not established better effects; and the more, although it was used in very small doses, it did not fail, according to Dr. Lambergen, to produce every time accidents that were bad enough, though not lasting; and as the vertigo or giddiness which it caused, went, sometimes, so far as to affect the sight.

The other plant that has been proposed for the cure of Cancers, is the hemlock, *cicuta*; but the small leaved field hemlock, or *cicuta minor*, is here meant. A better opinion did not formerly prevail of this plant than of the *bella donna*; and it was regarded in the same manner, as being a poison. Such was the common sentiment of the antient physicians, as Celsus, Dioscorides, &c. and the greatest part of the moderns. And Dr. Storck himself says, that by rubbing on the end of his tongue a drop or two of the milk, which oozes out of the fresh root, when cut into slices, it presently after became stiff; swelled and was very painful; and soon after he lost the power of speaking, which greatly alarmed him; but by washing his tongue with the juice of lemon, and by rubbing the end with it, the virulency was abated; he immediately felt ease; and in about two

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hours,

hours, his tongue regained its liberty, and all his apprehensions vanished. Had a few drops of this milk been swallowed, it would have given a further proof of its deleterious property, and confirmed the opinion of the antients with regard to its poisonous quality. However, Dr. Storck, desirous to employ this plant against Cancers, dared to try its effects on himself, in imitation of Dr. Lambergen's experiment on the *bella donna*, before he administered it to others. A farther hint of giving the hemlock inwardly, he takes from Pliny, who relates that the green stalks of hemlock were eaten by many without injury: and as part of its virulency is taken off by evaporation and concoction in the boiling, such an alteration might, perhaps, have encouraged the doctor, in imitation of others, to make trial of it in the extract.

This poisonous plant was first ordered internally by Hippocrates; and according to Galen, the decoction, the seed, and even the leaves, entered into several compositions. He mentions, amongst others, one in particular; which he ascribes to Appolodorus, and of which he says, that Heraclidus made use to quiet great pains.

O N C A N C E R S. 67

Ray tells us, that one Bowles gave the root of hemlock, to the quantity of a scruple in malignant and quartan fevers, and preferred it to all diaphoretics; and that Renaume, a French physician, administered a scruple or half a dram of hemlock in substance, for resolving the schirrus of the liver; or gave an infusion in wine, made with a dram or two of the root of it, dried in the shade, and reduced to powder.

The description of this plant Storck gives from Morison, vol. iii. p. 290; and the preparation of it thus: Take of the juice of the hemlock fresh gathered; and let it be inspissated while fresh with a gentle heat in an earthen vessel (often stirring it, lest it burn) to the consistence of a thick extract. Let this extract be formed, with as much of the powder of the leaves as may be necessary, into a mass for pills; from which let them be made of two grains each.

He always began with a very small dose, giving only at first one pill morning and evening. On the third or fourth day, he repeated the same pill three times. After eight days he began to give two pills thrice every day; and by increasing in this propor-

tion, he gradually rose, (if occasion required) till it came to a dram, or a dram and a half, in the space of twenty-four hours; and tho' he gave these pills for a year or two, or more, without intermission, he never observed they did any harm; and I must own, from my own experience, I seldom found them to produce any benefit, unless assisted by other remedies.

The favourable accounts given by Dr. Storck of this plant in his dissertation, have encouraged many persons both here and in France, to employ it on the same occasions, who have strictly followed the methods stated by him, and have not found any good effect thereby. And indeed, Dr. Astruc, an eminent physician and professor of physic at Paris, says, that the extract of hemlock has been given there for a considerable time, in all the cases where Dr. Storck had himself given it. There has not, indeed, been any other bad effect found from it, otherwise than to cause a giddiness so as to affect the sight; but the success has not answered hitherto the expectations conceived of it; and Dr. Storck has the candour to own, that he himself failed of doing service to some, even by a long con-

tinued

tinued course ; and that the terrestrial hemlock often failed where the aconite succeeded.

The next is the *aconitum* recommended by the doctor, and which Wepfer has described by the name of *cicuta aquatica*, or water hemlock, and of the dismal effects of some children, who, by mistake, did eat of it. The alterations which Wepfer observed the roots of *aconitum* to make in the body, were a violent pain and heat in the stomach, terrible convulsions, with the loss of all the senses, distortion of the eyes, and flowing of blood out of the ears ; the mouth so fast shut that no art could open it ; efforts to vomit, but nothing thrown up ; frequent hiccoughs, with a great distension and swelling, especially at the pit of the stomach ; and when death had finished the tragedy, a continual running of green froth at the mouth.

This plant, however, has also been prepared and given by Storck in the same manner and quantity as the terrestrial hemlock, and he says it has cured in many cases where the other has failed, which may be seen in several cases, in his treatise on that plant.

Upon the whole, Dr. Storck desires he may not be understood in a general sense ; nor

does he mean to extend the virtues of hemlock so far as to give them the latitude of a specific. For he is not of such an opinion as to believe that these rules are general; and that hemlock ought always to cure. He says, and openly owns, that he has likewise had patients of all kinds to whom likewise hemlock was of no service; although it was indicated from the similitude of the disease.

If any should be desirous to try the effects of these plants in expectation of a cure, it is best to begin with a small quantity; for there are particular constitutions, in which medicines, otherwise extremely innocent, are hurtful. Therefore, to avoid doing mischief in such case; and in order, gradually, to attain a knowledge of the patient's habit, the best way is to proceed cautiously, and with moderate doses.

The next remedy proposed for Cancers, is antimonial pills. This mineral, from the knowledge of its real constituents by analysis, when given in a solid indissoluble form, can be of no effect in Cancers, no more than in schirruses, as already observed; but rather by its weight and *spicula*, becomes hurtful to the stomach, and cannot be dissolved by
any

any of the animal fluids : whence it can scarce possibly enter the lacteals, to mix with the blood and juices ; as the metallic particles lie dormant in its sulphur : hence antimony, in a solid form, is rejected in cancerous cases.

The following corollaries may be inferred ; that whatever has been proposed for the curing of Cancers, are merely palliative medicines ; and that no real specific has been hitherto discovered for that fatal disorder, altho' the physicians of all nations, from the time of Hippocrates to the present, have, by numberless researches and experiments, made trial of every thing in nature, from the most innocent drug, to the most virulent poison, both in the mineral and vegetable kingdoms ; yet the disease still baffles the power of physic ; therefore the last remedy proposed, as the only resource, is amputation.

But, alas ! how uncertain is that cruel and severe operation ; and how few there be who receive benefit from it, as has been already mentioned ; that among two hundred who had their breasts cut off, not above three received benefit ; for after the operation, the disease generally returns, and rages with more violence. Nor is it always, and on

every part, to be performed; nor can it be attempted, if the breast be adherent, or the glands in the arm-pit tumefied and schirrous; nor if the part be near any large vessel; nor if the cancerous malignity has infected the blood. Thus it is plain that no medicine nor art hitherto tried has been of efficacy enough to cure Cancers, not even extirpation itself. And it is in vain to expect success from amputation, whilst the morbid matter remains still fixed in the juices; and until that is thoroughly eradicated by the proper specifics, the disease will break out again either in the same place, or throw itself upon some other part: the cancerous lurking humour, being, as it were, conveyed thither by a kind of *metastasis* or translation of the peccant matter.

Thus having taken a survey of the foregoing practice, and of the several opinions and remedies proposed; I shall therefore now proceed to give a more exact account of the nature, causes, and different species both of schirrous and cancerous complaints, in order to establish a more universal, solid, safe, and effectual method of cure. I shall also lay down a few theorems, from which may be deduced some practical inferences, shewing the

the error of giving the latitude of a specific to mercury, antimony, and hemlock, for those disorders in general; and that, by too hastily drawing conclusions too general, from a few particular cases.

The most safe, efficacious, and only certain method of cure, for every species of schirrus and cancers.

I Now proceed to the method of cure, which I have used with the greatest success for a considerable time, during a very extensive practice in schirrous and cancerous complaints.

There are in these diseases two principal things which merit our particular attention; namely, the antecedent causes of the disorder, and the cancerous matter when formed; I shall therefore, with respect to the causes, divide cancers into four different species. *First*, such as proceed from a venereal infection; *secondly*, those which are produced by a scorbutic, or scrophulous humour; *thirdly*, those that happen from a complication of the foregoing distempers; *fourthly*, those occasioned by external injuries, the patients being at that time in sound health, and free from

from any prior disease. Hence it follows, that cancers are either venereal, scorbutic, complicated or simple.

To fulfil these four intentions, and rightly to adapt the cure, a physician ought to use his utmost diligence and sagacity.

If the cancer be judged venereal, scorbutic, scrophulous, I administer internally my anticancerous elixir, as I do likewise in complicated cases; having fully experienced its efficacy in each; as it not only expels the virus, but purifies the whole mass of blood: In simple cases, I have found the linement sufficient to effect a cure without the help of internals.

The external remedy which I apply in schirruses and cancers; and which are conjointly used with the internal remedy specifically proposed in the foregoing article, are my antischirrous and anticancerous medicines.

The *first*, of which the qualities are admirable, as it relaxes the fibres and membranes on the schirrous part; restores and strengthens their systaltic spring; softens and liquifies the concreted humour; and by these conjoint means, procures the resolution of it; or brings it to a kindly suppuration: while

while, at the same time, it operates without any danger of irritating, or inflaming the disorder, or bringing on a cancer.

The *second*, of which there is no doubt of its virtue, in quieting the violence of the pains, corrects the cancerous ichor, and brings it to a laudable suppuration; also deterges and cicatrizes the ulcers. Titus by the use of these remedies, the disease is eradicated, and a perfect cure completed, without danger of a relapse.

The success of my Practice, confirmed by long experience, enables me to say, that schirruses and cancers are curable; and I am thereby convinced that the afflicted may receive considerable benefit, especially as I have had the happiness to perform cures on patients, whose cases are deemed desperate and incurable, in confirmation of which several cases are annexed.

Ulcers of the Uterus or Womb.

IT is known by experience, that ulcers in the womb are more rapid in their progress, more painful, and generally more dangerous in women who have yet their monthly

ly courses, than in those with whom they have ceased.

In practice, only three kinds of Ulcers in the uterus are known; the simple ulcer, the venereal, and the carcinomatous, or cancerous. I shall not enter into a discussion of the various methods of treatment in those disorders; but only hint that there are two general intentions to be observed: The one, to correct the bad quality of the blood, which has produced, or at least continues the ulcer: The other to prevent any thing that may augment repletion, or pain in an ulcerated part of the womb, and thereby conduce to the increase of the disease.

The methods I have long used in treating the most confirmed ulcers of the womb, in which I have had great experience, have proved singularly efficacious; and there are many instances to be cited wherein my remedies have been attended with remarkable success in the different stages of those desperate disorders, even to the astonishment of numbers of the faculty.

*A Dissertation on the Disorders occasioned by
the Milk; and the Means of preventing
them.*

THE disorders which most frequently are occasioned by the Milk, may be divided into two classes. The first comprehends those brought on by too great a quantity of milk, by its lodging or condensing in the parts through which it is filtrated, and which are appropriated to its reception. The second includes such as arise (let what will be the cause) from the milk's not being secreted from the blood, and its flowing intermixed with the mass through the blood-vessels.

The disorders occasioned by the redundancy of milk, by its stagnating, and condensing in the breasts, deserve the nicest attention. The milk, by its redundancy, renders the breasts tumid and painful, and produces dangerous inflammations; by its stagnating it corrupts and forms abscesses. The milk naturally condenses, when the most fluid part of it runs off through the excretory ducts, or passes away by perspiration, in
which

which case it often obstructs the lymphatic ducts that form the glands of the breasts, and render them scirrrous. Such scirruses may degenerate into a cancer, an alarming and dangerous malady.

These, then, are the disorders to which the milk gives rise, in the very organs which nature destined for its filtration and reception.

With regard to the means of preventing those accidents, it should seem that the suckling of a robust child, of all others were the properest to prevent too great quantity of milk from overloading the breasts, as well as its stagnation and condensing. A slender diet ought likewise to be enjoined, lest the milk should so abound in the breasts, as that the infant may not be able to empty them. But should that remedy be precluded by the aversion which some women have to suckling, and if, at the same time, the breasts are painful, and threaten inflammation, every proper method must be used to cause a revulsion of the milk, and promote the *lochia*; such as emollient clysters, bleeding in the feet, and bathing them in warm water, as well as frequent frictions in the lower parts; yet should the inflammation of the breasts

breasts be attended by that of the womb, together with a suppression of the *lochia*, (an accident which often happens) bleeding in the foot, in order to restore the suppressed evacuation, should not be hastily practised; as it is likely to increase the disorder in the womb, and, instead of abating, render the inflammation more violent. Moriceau, * in

* Though one may well venture to style erroneous the theory of *Derivation* and *Revulsion* adopted by Moriceau, since bleeding in the foot does not draw to the lower parts a greater quantity of blood, into the arteries; nor does that in the arm facilitate a more copious reception of blood into the arteries conveying it to the upper parts of the body; nevertheless we must allow his practice to be good. Preference certainly must be given to bleeding in the arm, in case of an inflammation of the womb; for the force of the *descending vena cava* being diminished by the privation of a column of blood, which bleeding causes, the *inferior vena cava* empties itself with greater ease into the right auricle of the heart, and permits a more free entrance of the blood carried to it by the veins of the uterus. Hence the utility of bleeding in the arm, in all inflammations of the womb. By quite a contrary manner of acting, bleeding in the foot is necessary to recall the evacuations; for by that operation the *ascending vena cava* losing a column of blood, which would have flowed to it; and the *descending vena cava*, by that means, resisting

more

in that case recommends bleeding in the arm, contrary to a vulgar opinion that represents this method as noxious to women newly brought to bed; nay he fairly proves the danger of bleeding in the foot in the above situation; nevertheless this able practitioner in the profession of midwifry, though he be absolutely of opinion, that, in all inflammations of the womb, and suppressions of the *lochia*, bleeding in the arm should be practised, to produce a revulsion towards the womb, and diminish the mass of blood; is also of opinion that bleeding in the foot may be of great service, and prescribes it with much confidence, when bleeding in the arm has first been tried †.

When bleeding, and the other remedies prescribed have been judiciously employed to restore or augment the flowing of the *lochia*,

more powerfully its entrance into the right auricle of the heart, the uterine veins will meet with greater difficulty in discharging themselves, and a plethora must ensue, which will bring on a more considerable flowing of the *lochia*; or the natural evacuations of women in childbed.

† See Moriceau's Treatise on Midwifry, page 419.

lochia, so as to obtain the end proposed; which is, to diminish the mass of blood, and the quantity of milk which is conveyed to the breasts, and renders them painful; it is necessary to administer all that tends to promote perspiration. During this time, every thing should be applied to the breast, to diminish or prevent the condensing of the milk. After having used these means, recourse should be had to more powerful resolvers, such as the liniment prepared for that purpose:

These, then, are the general methods which seem necessary to be used, to prevent the inflammation of the breasts, the extravasation and condensing of the milk, the schirrus, and the cancer, which is often the consequence.

We now proceed to consider that class of disorders, which the milk produces, when it is not separated from the blood.

When the woman does not suckle, and the course of the milk, through the breasts, is not promoted thereby; that milk should be continually conveyed to the heart, through the blood-vessels. But, as before observed, the womb being closed, and hav-

ing obstructed almost totally the vessels which convey the blood to the child; a reflux is caused, and impedes the contraction of the left ventricle, which, in this case, ought to be more frequent: but if in these circumstances, the evacuation of the milk designed by nature, has not its course by way of the breasts, and if the lacteal matter is conveyed back to the heart; that organ will be naturally overcharged by the conflux of a greater quantity of fluid than it ought to receive; in this case the contractions will necessarily multiply, the heat of body will encrease, and a fever soon will ensue.

This fever, which is termed, The Milk Fever, generally happens the third or fourth day after lying-in, and sometimes continues but twenty-four hours, during which, the breasts swell, and receive a great quantity of milk. This fever generally terminates by sweats, more or less profuse, that smell like sour milk, and, it is to be observed, that it is rather useful than hurtful; for the heat being increased, the juices have a larger space, by means of the rarefaction of which they are susceptible. The sanguinary arteries are a little distended; the orifices of
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the lymphatic arteries become larger, and consequently, more easily admit the globules of the milk: for the same reason, they can more easily pass from the last mentioned vessels into the excretory ducts, and by that means be expelled. It is also for this reason, that the breasts receive more milk during this fever, and that the perspiration is increased: it is, perhaps, from the same cause (I mean the rarefaction of the juices) that warm applications tend to increase the milk. Women who suckle their children from their first lying-in, are but little incommoded with this fever; it troubles those more who do not suckle, though many are found amongst the latter who are but slightly attacked with it.

The milk fever may be of short or long duration. It will be short, if nature can by any excretory means, throw off the humours, with which it is overcharged; that is to say, in the case where women do not suckle, if the *lochia* increase, or the perspiration becomes more profuse: but it will be of longer duration, if the humours which overcharge the vessels, cannot effect a passage through one or other of these ways.

This fever will then be equally dangerous, and the more so, if, as it sometimes happens, the *lochia* or the perspiration diminish.

This malady is ordinarily attended with many ill consequences; sometimes delirium, phrenzy, convulsions, and sudden death: at other times inflammations, abscesses, and lacteal extravasations, which form themselves in many parts of the body. These extravasations often terminate the disorder, when they form themselves in the exterior parts; but they are generally mortal when formed in the interior. This fever, however, may subsist without bringing on any abscess, for a considerable time, and it may then have all the symptoms of a putrid fever; the lacteal matter of which, being liable to a rank and alcalescent fermentation, nourishes the fever, and causes the dissolution of humours, which being carried to a certain point, of necessity brings on death.

There are numberless examples of the bad effects which the air produces in these cases; so that it should be strictly enjoined to lying-in women, not to take the air too soon. But this advice, as is natural to imagine, need not be so forcibly recommended
to

to women that suckle, because with them, the milk has a channel which is never closed.

But if, notwithstanding all these precautions, the lochia and perspiration are not encreased, and there is always reason to apprehend accidents; bleeding in the foot may be practised, when a strict injunction must be laid on the diet: But let it be particularly observed, that, in these cases, perspiration is the discharge that should be had principally in view.

Though sudorifics and diaphoretics are in the class of heating remedies, and though such remedies do not seem proper in a fever that has the symptoms of a putrid one; there is, however, in this case little to fear from the use of them. These remedies, it is true, may, during their operation, encrease the heat; but that is but for a time: so that when their operation has ceased, the heat and fever are less than before, because the sweats and perspiration have carried off with them, one part of the humour that nourished the heat and fever; from which it follows, they have operated with efficacy upon the cause of the disorder. It is beyond a doubt, that sudorifics and diaphoretics

tics produce a salutary effect, in causing a greater rarefaction in the juices, which being rarified, distend the arteries that contain them. These arteries being distended, render the orifices of the lymphatic arteries (to which they give rise) sufficiently large, to receive the heterogeneous matter which results from the remains of the milk; a matter, which, without the operation of sudorifics, would not but with difficulty have been discharged.

The lymphatic arteries, in their turn, encreasing in diameter, by the rarefaction of the lymph and other juices, which circulate in their tubes; they facilitate the excretion of the heterogeneous humour, and that by enlarging the orifices of the excretory ducts; from whence it may be concluded, that warm sudorific remedies, ought sometimes to be preferred to cooling remedies; because the former often operate on the cause of the disease, and expel it, while the latter only opposes the effects which that same cause produces. Though light diaphoretic and sudorific remedies may be used with success in the cure of diseases incidental to women from a defect in the excretion of the lacteal humour,

humour, it is not thence to be inferred that every other kind of remedy ought to be rejected.

Purging cannot, with propriety, be recommended on first lying-in, because it cannot fail to cause a diminution, and, probably, a suppression of those evacuations, which, though not copious, ought to be promoted.

Nevertheless, when it is presumed that the first passages are overcharged, and there are manifest causes for purging, gentle doses may be administered, at first lying-in: but if the disease be of long duration, and the lacteal humour seems to incline towards the intestines, and, consequently, to bring on a flux, the use of purgatives will not admit of a doubt: They may be repeated according to the effect, and rendered more or less powerful, according to the symptoms and the nature of the disorders, there is reason to apprehend.

It is necessary to add a little, concerning the utility of blisters, when women, labouring under this disorder, feel violent pains in different parts of the body. This very often happens, and the pains are always extreme, and are situated generally on the thighs, on
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the side of the *fascia lata*, which is the membranous part; sometimes they are felt in the legs and the feet: These pains are often attended with a slight swelling, which might afford ground to suspect an extravasation in those parts, if there was not reason to think otherwise from the short time in which the swelling disappears, and the pains quit that seat for one very distant. When a like case presents itself, it is improper to hazard incisions; but without risking any danger, a large blister plaister may be applied to the outward side of the thigh, and to the most painful part; it will produce suppuration, which should be promoted. I have seen this method repeated, and remove excessive pains, that had resisted a variety of other means.

To finish this dissertation, it only remains to observe, that in all the various degrees in which these dangerous and afflicting disorders appear, I have administered my remedies with universal success; the happy effect of which may be known from the cases hereunto annexed.

The following Cases, among many others, are attested from indubitable Authority.

Mrs. LONGBOTTOM's Case.

MRS. Longbottom, midwife, wife of Mr. Longbottom, next door to Guy's Hospital, had been afflicted with a schirrous tumour, of some years growth, attended at intervals with darting pains. She had consulted the most eminent of the faculty, who, after using divers means gave her up as past hope of relief. In this state of despair, she was encouraged by some friends to apply to me; when I found the tumour very hard, impenetrable, and of an uncommon size; the glands under the arm-pits were likewise schirrous; encreased to the size of a large hen's egg, and fixed. The acute pains she had long felt, could not but reduce her to a very weak and languid condition. I followed my usual method of practice, which subjects not the patient to any degree of pain; till, by degrees, the tumour became soft, the axillary glands were totally reduced, every bad symptom was perfectly removed, there remained not the least uneasy sensation, and a cure was compleatly effected in three months.

As this is a most extraordinary case, and the confirmation of it of course of the utmost importance to persons afflicted in a similar manner, those who please to apply to Dr. Burrows will be referred not only to the patient, and Mr. Longbottom, who, from the nature of his profession, must be well known to the faculty in general, but the names of the respectable practitioners the patient had consulted upon the occasion.

Case of MARTHA DAN.

MARTHA Dan, of Cambridge, about 22 years of age, was recommended to my care by Mr. Hodson, Printer, of that town, to whose child she was wet-nurse. Three or four weeks after her lying-in, a milk tumour formed in her right breast, which daily encreasing, became large, an inflammation came on with excruciating pain. The resolvent and other methods had been tried for sometime, without effect, till at length, Mr. Hodson compassionating her distressed situation, wrote to me, describing her case. I sent her my remedy, with directions; and on application, she began soon to grow easier; till, by a continuance of the same, the tumour was shortly brought to suppuration; the pain consequently abated, then ceased, and in a few days the breast was healed, without any other topical application. The woman is now in perfect health.

Case

Case of Mrs. EVANS.

MRS. Evans (one of the people called Quakers) in the Grange Walk, Southwark, having a large indurated tumour in her breast, with a considerable schirrous knot, which extended to the arm-pit, consulted an eminent surgeon, who advised her to have it cut off; but on her dreading so painful an operation, recommended her only to keep it warm, concluding that all attempts to cure it would prove ineffectual.

The tumour gradually increasing, the pain of course became daily more acute, and produced those shocking effects that are common in such cases; till at length, in March, 1770, she was advised to apply to me, by Mrs. Longbottom, midwife, near Guy's Hospital, whom I had before cured of a cancer of the most malignant nature. Encouraged by this promising circumstance, she complied with her advice, and being treated in my usual method, in a short time experienced very sensible relief.

The schirrus was gradually reduced, the tumour softened, her pains daily diminished, and in the space of two months, she was perfectly restored, to her own unspeakable pleasure, and the surprize of many of her brethren and neighbours, who implicitly relying on the opinion of

some of the faculty, had intimated, that her case was beyond the power of medicine, and to be remedied but by extirpation alone. She appeared in tolerable spirits, and made little or no complaint of pain, during the course of the cure, nor has the least bad symptom appeared on her breast ever since, but, on the contrary, she has enjoyed a state of perfect health.

Case of ALICE ARIS.

THIS patient, whose disorder proved to be of the most inveterate nature, was recommended to me in 1765, by some persons in the family of her grace the late Duchess of Bridgewater. She had already had the advice of several hospital surgeons, from whom receiving very little encouragement to hope for a cure, she became languid and extremely dejected.

When I first made observation of her case, I found she had a cancerous tumour in the left breast, attended with discoloration and a surr on the skin. The nipple was retracted, which excited great pain, and threatened ulceration, which in a short time, accordingly happened. Her arm and shoulder suffered greatly from a schirrus of considerable size, being under the arm-pit, and scarcely moveable.

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Her case was so peculiarly malignant, that my method of treatment did not promise success for a considerable time; nevertheless, as the tumour did not enlarge, I was encouraged to proceed. Having continued the application of my remedies about seven weeks, I perceived the tumours began to soften, move and incline to dissolve. After these very promising symptoms, the patient grew daily more easy, recovered her rest in some degree, and her strength in a very short time, so far as to be able to attend daily at my house in order to be dressed.

She was treated in the same manner as my other patients, and though the cure was much slower than I usually experience in other cases; it was at length radically effected in about the space of five months, when she returned to service in perfect health. Since her cure she has lived with S. Fanshaw, Esq; in Saville-Row, and Mrs. Cook, in May-Fair, as can be attested by many of the family, from which she received her recommendation to me.

Case of Mrs. WEST.

MRS. West, wife to a cabinet maker, in Holbourn, was recommended to my care, in March, 1770, by Mr. M'Kinnon, upholder, in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields. She informed me

me, that in the beginning of the year, after having laid in about six weeks, she felt violent shooting pains in her left breast. In a short time after, the breast grew very hard and inflamed. She had the advice of a surgeon, who ordered her to pultice it, night and morning, which she did for some time. This caused it to imposthume and break, and a great discharge followed thereupon. Four days after another part of the breast broke, and in the space of a month, several holes appeared. When I examined her, I found several sinusses which penetrated very deep, and from the great discharge she was brought extremely low. I treated her in my usual manner, of the success of which I have had such frequent experience, and in the course of one month, she was radically cured; and has since attended the duties of her family, in a state of perfect health.

Case of a Poor Woman.

A Poor Woman, wife to a chairman, in Curzon Street May-Fair, recommended to me by the brother of George Wright, Esq; member of parliament for Leicester (whose sister I then had under my care, for a similar case) had an ulcerated cancer in her breast, of several years standing, for which she had been an out-patient

patient in St. George's Hospital, without obtaining any relief. At length she was advised by the faculty to have it extirpated, but feared the severity of the operation.

Upon examination I found the ulcer to be very deep, and contain an intolerable foetid slough, discharging a thin putrid ichor in great quantities. Her disorder was attended with acute, burning, and pricking pains, which depriving her of rest, reduced her to a very emaciated state.

She was treated in the same manner as my other patients: after some weeks a good digestion ensued, and in four months, without any inconvenience, the ulcer healed, and she was radically cured.

CASE OF Mrs. HARLEY.

MRS. Harley, in Welbeck Street, Mary-le-bone, in the year 1769, applied to me, having a large cancerous tumour in the upper part of her breast, which swelled, after some time, to a prodigious size. She had consulted, her apothecary, who only advised her to keep it warm; but the pain daily encreasing, she was at length unable to rest. A surgeon was then consulted, and resolvent applications were used, by which means the breast was violently inflamed.

inflamed. Pultices were applied, which abated the inflammation, but the hardness still continued. In this state I found her, and applied the medicines I use in cancerous disorders, which very soon abated the pain: In about a month the hardness and swelling began to decrease, and in the space of fourteen weeks, she was entirely cured, without cutting, caustic, or any painful operation.

Case of JANE KEEP.

THIS is to certify, that I, Jane Keep, of Sunning Hill, in Berkshire, having, for a considerable time, laboured under a cancerous disorder in my tongue, which had eat many large holes into it, and rendered me almost incapable of taking proper nourishment to keep alive; I consulted many able professors, and took a great quantity of medicines, but to no purpose, my disorder daily encreasing, I must have perished in a very short time, but was recommended by some friends, whose names are here under-written, to come to London, and apply to Dr. Burrows, for his advice. I took a lodging near him, and in the space of one month, through the blessing of God, and his medicines, he made an entire cure

sure of me, to the great astonishment of my acquaintance and friends, who knew my miserable situation.

JANE KEEP.

Sunning-Hill, April 18, 1774.

Witnesses { Richard Hodges, } Assembly-House,
 { A. M. Hodges, } Sunning-Hill.
 { John Charlwood, } Suning-Hill.

Case of MARY SMITH.

MARY SMITH opposite Mr. Rowbottom's, japanner, in Long Acre, had laboured many years under a cancer of an enormous size, during the growth of which she suffered much uneasiness. After divers applications without relief, she was advised, as the only means remaining, to have her breast taken off, but would not submit to so terrible an operation. At length she was recommended to me, in a state truly deplorable, her pains being so excruciating, as to deprive her of all rest by night and by day. When she first applied, a gentleman, eminent in his profession, and one of his Majesty's household, happened to be present; and, from the malignant symptoms with which her cancer was attended, pronounced it incurable; but in the course of three months, the cure was happily effected, without cutting,

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caustic,

caustic, or any painful operation; or even so great a degree of pain as the very nature of the disorder commonly produces. This cure was performed under the immediate inspection of that gentleman, who at his own request attended from time to time, during the course; as can be attested, on referring to me, by the said gentleman, as well as a number of the patient's neighbours, who were eye-witnesses to the same. She has since had fine children.

Mrs. BONNELL's Case.

ALICE BONNEL, wife of Mr. Bonnel, upholsterer, in Long Acre, was recommended to my care in the year 1775, having a cancer in her breast, that was grown to a considerable size, attended with the acutest pain, and threatening the most alarming consequences. She had had recourse to divers means, external and internal, notwithstanding which, the tumour continued to increase, till through incessant pain she was reduced to the emaciated state in which I found her. The breast upon examination proved very hard towards the arm, (which she could not move without the greatest difficulty) irregular in shape, with a discoloration of the tegument. She had long been afflicted with an intense pain in her side, which, aggravated
by

by the smallest motion, sometimes amounted almost to torture.

Having administered my remedies for some days, a thin serous discharge issued from the nipple, which continuing, greatly weakened the patient, before much reduced. She expressed little pain from the manner of treatment, but complained much of the weight of the breast, which she was obliged to have suspended. In due time, the means I used to resolve the tumour succeeded very happily; the most favourable symptoms gradually appeared, and in the space of about three months it was entirely abated; when she recovered her strength, and health, and has since had three fine children; as can be attested to the satisfaction of those who shall please to enquire.

Case of MARY JONES.

MARY JONES, a poor woman of the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn, aged forty-four, of a healthy constitution, had an ulcerated cancer in the breast, for which she had consulted several surgeons, who deemed the case incurable. She was directed to me for assistance in February, 1773, when she informed me that the cancer was occasioned by a blow she had received some years before. The ulcer was at

that time very deep, discharging a thin putrid ichor, attended with severe lancinating pains down her side, greatly affecting her shoulder, and almost depriving her of rest. By the application of my remedies for some time, the pain began to abate, the ichor to decrease, a tolerable good digestion ensued, and her natural rest was restored. In about four months she was radically cured, and during the course of the cure, was so well as to attend at my house. She is now in perfect health, as can be proved to any, who may please to enquire.

CASE OF WILLIAM WALKER.

WILLIAM WALKER, weaver, had been afflicted upwards of twelve months, with a cancer on his upper lip, which arose from an excoriation by a tobacco pipe adhering to the part in smoking. In 1769 he was recommended to my care, by Mr. William Aubert, Merchant, of London, when having neglected it, I found part of the lip eaten away. The sore was greatly extended, grown hard and painful, and discharged a foetid matter, which rendered him extremely disagreeable to himself, as well as others, and almost deprived him of the power of eating and drinking. In this case my method of treatment happily succeeded; the lip healed in less than two months, and the man ever since enjoyed a perfect state of health.

CONCLUSION.

THESE extraordinary cures were preceded, and have been followed by a great number of others; so that if I was to recount the different patients, and the various cases which have fallen under my care and inspection, during a long course of practice, both at home and abroad, they would swell into a volume: But, as a few particular cases, indubitably attested, are sufficiently convincing; and as I rest my reputation on *facts*, and not on words, these shall suffice.

I would recommend to persons who feel themselves attacked with cancerous disorders, to consider these cases attentively, by which means they may discover in them some symptoms similar to their own. In comparing their state with those that have come under my treatment, and observing the effects produced by my remedies, they will be able to judge of the benefit they may reasonably expect in so terrible a disease.

To

To conclude, if a constant course of successful practice; if cures, performed in the most desperate cases, under the immediate inspection of gentlemen of eminence in their profession; if, to these considerations, attested facts are added; the utility of the medicines by which they were wrought must be universally acknowledged.

FINIS.